David Becker, Ph.D.

Dr. Becker received his bachelor’s degree in political science and his master’s degree in public administration from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Becker is a professor of political science at California State University, Northridge. He has also taught classes on group and intergroup relations, organizations, and organizational behavior at community colleges and at California State University, Fullerton, where he is an associate professor of political science and director of the Master of Public Policy program. His research interests include political behavior, organizational behavior, and public policy. Dr. Becker has published numerous articles and books in political science and related fields. His research has been cited in numerous academic journals and textbooks.

Dr. Becker is the author of several books on politics, including “The Power of the President,” “The Politics of the Law,” and “The Politics of the Supreme Court.” He has also contributed chapters to several books on political science, including “The Politics of the Supreme Court,” “The Politics of the President,” and “The Politics of the Law.” His research has been published in such journals as “The American Political Science Review,” “The Journal of Politics,” and “The Political Methodologist.”

Dr. Becker has received numerous awards for his teaching and research, including the Outstanding Faculty Award from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the Outstanding Faculty Award from California State University, Northridge. He is a member of the American Political Science Association and the American Association for Public Administration.

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Content Designed for California’s County Employees

CSUN’s Online MPA for Executives is a two-year program that has been designed in consultation with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to meet the advanced professional-development needs of California’s county employees, especially through the provision of highly relevant and recent case studies.

Offered in partnership with the CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government, CSUN’s Online MPA for Executives program enables employees of any of California’s 58 counties who have at least seven years of public agency experience to develop a sophisticated skill set in administrative leadership and critical analysis in the public-sector context while continuing their full-time professional careers.

With more than 2,000 graduates since 1985, CSUN’s MPA program is not only the largest Master of Public Administration program in California but also the third largest in the nation.

Program features:
• An intensive, two-year course of study taught in the cohort format
• A highly relevant, interdisciplinary curriculum that is delivered primarily online, so that all participants are registered in the classes required to complete their degrees. Program enrollment in all program courses is guaranteed.
• Exceptional Networking Opportunities

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MPA for Executives Culminating Experience/Project: “The Capstone Workshop”

While CSUN’s MPA program has utilized both comprehensive exams and traditional graduate projects as culminating experiences, the new MPA for Executives program features a unique “Capstone Workshop” in which students assume the role of consultants and will choose or be assigned from among County Public-Sector leaders to one of three different “Capstone Projects” in the designated public agency and will produce a policy- and/or project-oriented solution to that organization.

Workshop No. 1: Succession Planning in the Public Sector
Participants in this session will learn how to:
• Identify employees who possess key competencies and a GPA of 2.5 or above overall or in the last 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of a culminating student practicum/project
• A highly relevant, interdisciplinary curriculum that is delivered primarily online, so that all participants are registered in the classes required to complete their degrees. Program enrollment in all program courses is guaranteed.
• Exceptional Networking Opportunities

Workshop No. 2: Action Research
Workshop participants will learn how to:
• Action research engages and empowers employees themselves as active participants in the needs-assessment processes of their own organizations.

Workshop No. 3: Performance-Based Management
Because effective public-sector organizations must be responsive in addressing the needs of the communities they serve, they are increasingly being compelled to develop and deploy effective performance-measurement and management systems.

Statement of Nondiscriminations and Disability Services Information
CSUN is committed to excellence in teaching, learning, scholarship and public service. CSUN is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX/ADA Institution. CSUN does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran status, as monitored by the Department of Labor (Office of Federal Contract Compliance) and the Department of Education, or in violation of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the California State University, Department of Equal Opportunity. CSUN is committed to excellence in teaching, learning, scholarship and public service. CSUN is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX/ADA Institution. CSUN does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran status, as monitored by the Department of Labor (Office of Federal Contract Compliance) and the Department of Education, or in violation of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the

Admission Requirements

• A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university
• A GPA of 2.5 or above overall or in the last 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of instruction
• Seven years of work experience in the public, private or nonprofit sector

To Apply Online
Go to the “APPLY” page of the MPA Online Website http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/programs/MPA/online/apply and follow the four steps listed below for submission of the following:

1) The online application, together with a one-page statement as described on the website;
2) A professional résumé – to be sent via email to mpao@csun.edu;
3) Official transcripts from all academic institutions attended (except CSUN) – to be sent directly to those institutions to the address below;
4) A nonrefundable fee for the application fee of $35, payable to “CSUN,” to be sent via regular or express mail to the address below.

For admission, all application materials must be received on or before the posted application deadline to receive full and equal consideration for admission.
Identify employees who possess key competencies and a highly relevant, interdisciplinary curriculum that is delivered primarily online, so that a culminating student practicum/project is offered in partnership with the CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government. CSUN Online MPA for Executives program enables employees of any of California’s 58 counties who have at least seven years of public-agency experience to develop sophisticated skills in administrative leadership and critical analysis in the public-sector context while continuing their full-time professional career.

With more than 2,000 graduates since 1985, CSUN’s MPA program is not only the largest Master of Public Administration program in California but also the third-largest in the nation. With nearly 36,000 students, California State University, Northridge is one of CSUN’s nine colleges, the Tseng College of Urban Development.

Practitioner-Based, Executive-Workshop Series

Workshop No. 1: Succession Planning in the Public Sector

With nearly 25 percent of public-sector employees planning to retire within the next 10 years, the successful implementation of effective succession planning is essential in order for public organizations to fulfill their strategic planning goals. Workshop participants will learn how to:

- Identify employees who possess key competencies and talent required for organizational leadership.
- Conduct needs identification and assessments, and
- Design a development plan for future hiring.

Workshop No. 2: Action Research

Action research engages and empowers employees themselves as active participants in the needs-assessment processes of their own organizations.

Participants in the workshop will learn how to conduct deep inquiry into their own professional practices in keeping with the visions and goals of their organizations.

Workshop No. 3: Performance-Based Management

Because effective public-sector organizations must be responsive to addressing the needs of the constituencies they serve, they are increasingly being compelled to develop and deploy effective performance-measurement and management systems.

Participants in this workshop will explore not only how such systems can be used most effectively but also how organizational cultures can be shaped to embrace performance-based practices.

Online Courses

MPA 610 Seminar in Public Administration and Environment
MPA 620 Research Methods in Public Administration
MPA 630 Organization Behavior in Public Service
MPA 644 Public Budgeting and Financial Administration
MPA 672 Public Policy, Public Finances
MPA 612A Intergovernmental Relations

For course descriptions please visit http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/programs/MPA/online/curriculum

MPA for Executives Culminating Experience/Project: “The Capstone Workshop”

While CSUN’s MPA program has utilized both comprehensive exams and traditional graduate projects as culminating experiences, the new MPA for Executives program features a unique “Capstone Workshop.” In which students assume the roles of consultant and client, this workshop aims to:

- Develop a customized, action-oriented solution to an actual problem.
- Produce a policy- and/ or project-oriented solution to that organization.
- Foster leadership development in students.
- Promote learning and professional development in the areas of public management and public service.

Statement of Nondiscrimination and Disability Services Information

CSUN does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status, and is committed to making the campus, the learning environment, and the educational environment as accessible as possible. CSUN complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations adopted thereunder.

Tuition

The tuition for CSUN’s two-year MPA for Executives program is $24,640. For more information, please contact the MPA program office or visit http://mpa.csun.edu.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available to employees of California’s County agencies who wish to participate in the MPA for Executives program, which is offered in partnership with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Institute.

To be considered for financial aid, applicants must be admitted into the program and complete the “Free Application for Federal Student Aid” (FAFSA) form, which is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. CSUN’s “Federal School Code” is 015113.

To remain eligible for the loan during the course of study, students must maintain the enrollment minimum of four credit units per semester.

Admission Requirements

- A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university
- A GPA of 2.5 or above overall or in the last 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of instruction
- Seven years of work experience in the public, private, or nonprofit sector

How to Apply Online

Go to the “APPLY” page of the MPA Online Website http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/programs/MPA/online to apply and follow the steps listed below for submission of the following:

1) The online application, together with a one-page statement as described on the website;
2) A professional résumé – to be sent via email to mpagen@csun.edu;
3) Official transcripts from all academic institutions attended (except CSUN) – to be sent directly to those institutions to the address below;
4) A nonrefundable check for the application fee of $55, payable to “CSUN,” to be sent via regular or express mail to the address below.

To learn more about the financial aid process, contact the MPA program office or visit the website http://mpa.csun.edu.

18111 Nordhoff Street
California State University, Northridge
Northridge, California 91330-8413

NOTE: All application materials must be received on or before the posted application deadline to review and equal consideration for admission.
Content Designed for California’s County Employees

CSUN’s Online MPA for Executives is a two-year program that has been designed—in consultation with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC)—to meet the advanced professional-development needs of California’s county employees, especially through the exploration of highly relevant and recent case studies.

Offered in partnership with the CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government, CSUN’s Online MPA for Executives program enables employees of any of California’s 58 counties who have at least seven years of public-agency experience to develop sophisticated skills in administrative leadership and critical analysis in the public-sector context while continuing their full-time professional careers.

With more than 2,000 graduates since 1985, CSUN’s MPA program is not only the largest Master of Public Administration program in California but also the third largest in the nation.

Program features:

- An intensive, two-year course of study taught in the cohort format
- A highly relevant, interdisciplinary curriculum that is delivered primarily online, so that all participants are registered in the classes required to complete their degrees. Program features include:
  - Guaranteed Enrollment in All Classes
  - Comprehensive Student Support Services
  - Exceptional Networking Opportunities
  - Additional Program Benefits:
    - Exceptional Networking Opportunities
      - With more than 2,000 graduates since 1985, CSUN’s MPA program is not only the largest Master of Public Administration program in California but also the third largest in the nation.
      - An eminent faculty composed of both senior-level, public-sector professionals and recognized scholars from several disciplines within the university

Additional Program Benefits:

- Exceptional Networking Opportunities
- CSUN’s online MPA for Executives program is offered in the cohort format, which means that participants enter the program and proceed through the entire course of study as a group. Each CSUN MPA for Executives cohort has a designated program manager who ensures that all participants are registered in the classes required to complete their degrees. Program features include:
  - Guaranteed Enrollment in All Classes
  - Comprehensive Student Support Services
  - Exceptional Networking Opportunities
  - Additional Program Benefits:
    - Exceptional Networking Opportunities
      - With more than 2,000 graduates since 1985, CSUN’s MPA program is not only the largest Master of Public Administration program in California but also the third largest in the nation.
      - An eminent faculty composed of both senior-level, public-sector professionals and recognized scholars from several disciplines within the university

Guaranteed Enrollment in All Classes

Once admitted to the program, students take two assigned courses per semester, and each degree-candidate’s course of study.

Practitioner-Based, Executive-Workshop Series

(Three Saturdays at the CSAC Institute, Sacramento)

Workshop No. 1: Succession Planning in the Public Sector

With nearly 25 percent of public-sector employees planning to retire within the next 5-10 years, the successful implementation of effective succession planning is essential in order to public organizations to fulfill their strategic planning goals.

Workshop participants will learn how to:

- Identify employees who possess key competencies and talent required for organizational leadership.
- Conduct needs identification and assessment.
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Workshop No. 2: Action Research

Action research engages and empowers employees themselves as active participants in the needs-assessment processes of their own organizations. Participants in this workshop will learn to conduct deep inquiry into their own professional practices in keeping with the voice and goals of their organizations.

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Because effective public-sector organizations must be responsive in addressing the needs of their citizens, they are increasingly being compelled to develop and deploy effective performance-measurement and management systems.

Participants in this workshop will explore not only how such systems can be used most effectively but also how organizational cultures can be shaped to embrace performance-based practices.

Online Courses (in order of presentation)

- MPA 610 Seminar in Public Administration and Environment
- MPA 620 Research Methods in Public Administration
- MPA 630 Organization Design and Management
- MPA 641 Public Budgeting and Financial Administration
- MPA 650 Public Policy Analysis
- MPA 612A Intergovernmental Relations
- MPA 632A Strategic Management
- MPA 632B Ethical and Professional Issues
- MPA 632C Organizational Leadership
- MPA 632D Culminating Experience

For course descriptions please visit http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/programs/MPA/online-curriculum.

MPA for Executives Culminating Experience/Project: “The Capstone Workshop”

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Students will be encouraged to work with the program’s Practicum Committee to identify a substantive policy or organizational problem in the designated public agency and apply what they have learned in the program to the solutions that they recommend.

For more information, please contact CSUN’s MPA program office or visit http://mpa.csun.edu.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available to employees of California’s County agencies who wish to participate in the MPA for Executives program, which is offered in partnership with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). To be considered for financial aid, applicants must be admitted into the program and complete the “Free Application for Federal Student Aid” (FAFSA) form, which is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. CSUN’s “Federal School Code” is 015113.

To remain eligible for the loan during the course of study, students must maintain the enrollment minimum of four credit units per semester.

MPA Program Information

Statement of Non-discrimination and Disability Services Information

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James David Ballard, Ph.D.

Dr. Ballard is a professor of sociology at CSUN, where he teaches a variety of courses in political sociology, criminology, and social problems. He received his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico. His research focuses on crime, deviance, and political participation.

Barbra Frye

To Learn More

Master of Public Administration for Executives

An ONLINE program Offered in Partnership with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Institute

- Content designed for California’s county employees
- Exceptional networking opportunities with county leaders
- Primarily online instruction, plus
- Three, face-to-face, practitioner-based executive workshops in Sacramento
- Taught by national and regional public-sector leaders and seasoned university faculty members

http://mpa.csun.edu
Expert Faculty

Maurice Becker, Ph.D.

- Bachelor’s and master’s in public, private and non-profit management at the University of California, San Diego, and both of his graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota. His main research interests center on the development and operation of public administration, where he consults with municipal governments. Becker has written two books on public policy and development, and as director of his Consulting Group, Becker, Inc., he works with governments and non-profits on transportation-related issues, including transportation to and from public transportation facilities.

Dr. Becker is a member of the Board of Directors of the University of California at Los Angeles, and the Business and Public Affairs Committee of the University of California at San Diego.

James David Ballard, Ph.D.

- Dr. Ballard is a member of the Department of Political Science at Oklahoma State University, where he received his Ph.D. in political science. He is currently an associate professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and his research focuses on the role of local government in California and the United States. He is currently working on a book that examines the relationship between local government and the public.

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Steven West, MPA

- Dr. West is a professor of political science at the University of California, Los Angeles, and his main research interests are in the area of public administration. He has published extensively on the role of public administration in the development of public policy, particularly in the context of local government.

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Cecilia Brauer, Ph.D.

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Laurance Beiler, Ph.D.

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